

AS

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 96-083-E - ORDER NO. 96-386
MAY 30, 1996

IN RE: Application of Duke Power Company for) ORDER
Approval of the Transfer of Property) APPROVING
in Gaffney, South Carolina.) TRANSFER OF
) PROPERTY

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Motion for Expedited Approval filed by Duke Power Company (Duke or the Company) on or about May 29, 1996.

On March 13, 1996, Duke filed its Petition for approval of the transfer of one parcel of land with improvements thereon located at 1020 Shelby Highway, Gaffney, South Carolina, under the provisions of S. C. Code Ann. §58-27-1300 (Supp. 1995). The parcel of property is not required for current utility operations. The property to be transferred consists of the following: 76.97 acres of land with improvements thereon located at 1020 Shelby Highway, Gaffney, South Carolina.

On January 19, 1996, Duke hired John Wall and Associates Realty, a local realtor, to market the parcel for sale. On February 29, 1996, Duke and WAG Investments, LLC entered into a contract at a price of \$340,000 for the parcel. The estimated market value as reported in the appraisal by Marion R. Griffin &

Company, Inc., an independent appraisal firm in Spartanburg, South Carolina, dated December 28, 1995, is \$340,000.

On March 29, 1996, Duke published a Notice of Filing in the Gaffney newspaper, and there have been no Protests or Petitions to Intervene. Duke then filed the verified testimony of David G. Stacy, attesting to the above-stated matters. In its Petition, Duke requested authority in accord with the FERC Uniform System of Accounts for Electric Utilities, that the original cost of the parcel being sold be credited as a reduction in the amount carried upon the books of the Company under Account 101, Electric Plant in Service, and Account 121, Non-Utility Property. The difference between the sale price and the original cost of the parcel will be applied to Account 421.10, Gain on Disposition of Utility Property or Account 421.20, Loss on Disposition of Property.

Duke further states that although S. C. Code Ann. §58-27-1300 (Supp. 1995) requires due hearing, that in view of the goal of efficiency on the part of Duke and the Commission, Duke believes that to require a separate public hearing on the sale of this property under these conditions would be inappropriate and that the weekly Commission hearing is an appropriate forum to approve the proposed sale. Duke notes that the sale will not adversely affect the general body of its customers. Therefore, based on its Application, Motion, verified testimony, and other materials, Duke requests that the Commission approve its Petition at its regularly scheduled Tuesday meeting, and waive a formal separate hearing in this matter.

The Commission has examined this matter, and believes that the Motion for Expedited Approval made by Duke should be granted. No Interventions have been received in this matter, nor does the matter affect the general body of subscribers of the Company. Therefore, the Commission believes that the discussion of the matter at its regular Tuesday meeting on May 28, 1996, at 11:15 a.m., based on the verified testimony and other materials in the record, may constitute the due hearing prescribed by the statute.

Further, the Commission has examined the contents of the record in this case and agrees that the facts and conclusions as stated by Duke are correct and, that the sale of the property in Gaffney, South Carolina, should be approved, with the accounting treatment as stated by Duke.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)